

Message Text

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62/53

ACTION DOTE-00

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 OES-06 EB-07 COME-00 CG-00 L-03

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FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1052

INFO AMCONSUL LENINGRAD

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C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (LIMITED OFFICIAL USE VICE CONFIDENTIAL)

DEPT PASS DOT FOR ALLEN TPI-42

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: TGEN, ETRN, UR, US

SUBJECT: US-USSR TRANSPORTATION AGREEMENT: MARINE PANEL 2 -
ICE TRANSITING VESSELS (05.0502)

REF: (A) STATE 279350, (B) STATE 264078

1. EMBASSY RECEIVED 15 NOVEMBER AN UNNUMBERED COMMUNICATION DATED 11 NOVEMBER FOR PITKIN (MARAD) FROM DUBCHAK (MORFLOT). BECAUSE OF THE IMPORT FOR TRIP OF USDEL TO SUBJECT MEETINGS HERE (REF A), WE ARE PROVIDING AN INFORMAL TRANSLATION OF APPROPRIATE PORTIONS.

2. QUOTE. THE DATES OF THE VISIT (5 - 12 DECEMBER) PROPOSED BY YOU ARE ACCEPTABLE. END QUOTE.

3. QUOTE. I AGREE WITH YOUR PROPOSAL TO DISCUSS IN ADDITION THE QUESTION OF REMOTE ICE SENSING. SECOND, I INFORM YOU THAT SPECIALISTS FROM MOREFLOT WILL NOT DISCUSS AND PARTICIPATE IN DISCUSSIONS OF THE NANSEN PROJECT AS THIS QUESTION IF OF NO INTEREST TO US. I UNDERSTAND THAT THE PROPOSALS PRESENTED IN MY LETTER NUMBER
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NTU-2-29ZH/1026 OF 21 JUNE 1976 HAVE BEEN ACCEPTED COMPLETELY BY YOU.

THE DISCUSSION OF THE TWO REPORTS MENTIONED IN THIS LETTER, AS WELL AS THE REPORT SUGGESTED BY YOU CONCERNING REMOTE ICE SENSING, AND THE DEFINITION OF THEMES AND FORMS OF FUTURE COOPERATION, MAKES THE PROGRAM OF U.S. DELEGATION VISIT SO SATURATED THAT I THINK IT INADVISABLE TO CONSIDER THE ADDITION OF THE TWO REPORTS PROPOSED BY YOU. END QUOTE.

4. QUOTE. I REQUEST CONFIRMATION AS SOON AS POSSIBLE OF THE DATE OF THE DELEGATIONS'S ARRIVAL AS WELL AS OF ITS COMPOSITION, EXCLUDING THE SPECIALISTS ON THE NANSEN PROJECT. END QUOTE.

5. QUOTE. A RETURN VISIT BY A SOVIET DELEGATION TO THE USA MAY TAKE PLACE A MONTH AFTER THE DEPARTURE OF YOUR DELEGATION FROM THE USSR. V. KH. DUBCHAK. END QUOTE.

6. SCICOUNS INFORMED DUBCHAK NOVEMBER 16 THAT ABOVE WAS DISAPPOINTING, PARTICULARLY THE NEGATIVE SOVIET RESPONSE TO DISCUSSION OF THE NANSEN PROJECT AND VISIT TO THE ARCTIC/ANTARCTIC INSTITUTE. DUBCHAK SAID THAT THE INSTITUTE AND THE NANSEN PROJECT FELL UNDER THE JURISDICTION OF GYDROMET, NOT MORFLOT, AND THAT HE COULD NOT MAKE THE NECESSARY ARRANGEMENTS. HE NOTED THAT A U.S. DELEGATION HAD ALREADY VISITED THE ARCTIC/ANTARCTIC INSTITUTE UNDER THE ENVIRONMENTAL AGREEMENT (02.08) AND SUGGESTED THAT FURTHER CONTACTS ON THE NANSEN PROJECT AND THE INSTITUTE PROCEED THROUGH THE ENVIRONMENTAL AGREEMENT, NOT THE TRANSPORTATION AGREEMENT.

7. DUBCHAK CONFIRMED THAT AGENDA FOR THE MARINE PANEL 2 DELEGATION REMAINS AS ORIGINALLY PROPOSED IN HIS LETTER OF JUNE 21 TO PITKIN; DISCUSSIONS AT MORFLOT, MOSCOW, AND A VISIT TO THE OCEANOGRAPHIC INSTITUTE IN LENINGRAD. HE REQUESTED THE DELEGATION COMPOSITION AND ARRIVAL SCHEDULE ASAP.

8. DUBCHAK SAID HE REJECTED PITKIN'S OCTOBER 22 PROPOSAL TO ADD TWO ITEMS TO THE AGENDA BECAUSE THE SOVIETS WILL NOT HAVE TIME TO PREPARE A FORMAL PRESENTATION ON "ADVANCED PROPULSION SYSTEMS FOR ICEBREAKERS" FOR THE DECEMBER MEETING, ADDING THAT HE THOUGHT THE AGENDA WAS FULL ENOUGH AS IT NOW STANDS. HE NOTED, HOWEVER, THAT THE SOVIET SIDE WOULD BE PREPARED AT THE DECEMBER MEETING TO DISCUSS FURTHER COOPERATIVE PROJECTS AND REPORTS, INCLUDING PITKIN'S PROPOSALS.

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9. COMMENT: IT APPEARS THAT DUBCHAK DOES HAVE GENUINE DIFFICULTIES IN ARRANGING VISITS THAT FALL OUTSIDE MORFLOT'S PURVIEW; HOWEVER, IT WAS ALSO EVIDENT THAT DUBCHAK WAS NOT PREPARED TO MAKE EXTRAORDINARY EFFORTS TO ACCEDE TO U.S. REQUESTS. UNDER PRODDING BY SCICOUNS, DUBCHAK ADMITTED THAT VISITS TO SOVIET NUCLEAR ICEBREAKERS WERE PRACTICALLY AN IMPOSSIBILITY AT THIS STAGE OF COOPERATION, APPARENTLY LINKING THIS TO SOVIET DISAPPOINT-

MENT WITH SOME ASPECTS OF U.S. PERFORMANCE UNDER THIS AGREEMENT.
HE NOTED, FOR EXAMPLE, THAT THE SOVIETS HAD NOT RECEIVED APPARATUS
FROM THE U.S. FOR OCEAN WAVE STUDIES, WHICH HE CLAIMED HAD BEEN
AGREED TO PREVIOUSLY. WE THUS SUGGEST THAT IF THE U.S. SIDE WISHES
TO PURSUE THE NANSEN PROJECT AND FURTHER VISITS TO THE ARCTIC/
ANTARCTIC INSTITUTE, IT WOULD BE BEST TO SEND THE U.S. SPECIALISTS
HERE LATER WITH AN ENVIRONMENTAL DELEGATION. FOR POSSIBLE
FOLLOW-UP WITH DUBCHAK, WE WOULD APPRECIATE CLARIFICATION OF
PURPORTED U.S. PROMISE OF WAVE STUDY APPARATUS.
END COMMENT.

10. DUBCHAK COMMUNIAION POUCHED EUR/SOV, REGISTRY NUMBER
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